

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for separating amalgam from dental sewage, said apparatus having a flow zone and a sedimentation zone arranged in a housing, said housing comprising:

an aperture for sewage supply;

an aperture for sewage discharge;

an inlet chamber;

a passage chamber containing a separator made of a plurality of layers of synthetic foil;

an outlet chamber; and

stands having a hollow interior;

the hollow interior of such stands contains at least one pressure chamber which is combined with pressure sensors measuring any pressure changes,

said housing being sealed in a liquid-proof manner except for said sewage supply aperture and said sewage discharge aperture.

3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2, characterised in that the inlet chamber, the passage chamber with the separator and the outlet chamber are arranged horizontally one after the other as seen in flow direction, and with the sewage supply and the

sewage discharge arranged in the highest position of the inlet chamber and the outlet chamber respectively.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said structured synthetic foil is a structured foil and a plain foil that are arranged alternately.

6. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said structured synthetic foil is a wound structured foil or a structured foil wound in combination with a plain foil.

7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said layers of structured synthetic foil are tubular elements made of structured foil, or structured foil and plain foil, which are slit into each other.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the structured synthetic foil provides continuous longitudinal structures as seen in the flow direction of the sewage.

9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the structured synthetic foil provides a plissé structure consisting of triangles, quadrangles, or trapezia.

10. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the structured synthetic foil provides lamellar, honeycombed or riffle structures or scattered raised points or indentations.
11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the sedimentation surfaces of the structured foil are roughened.
12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a perforated plate is arranged between the inlet chamber and the passage chamber, the holes of which provide sinkings on the side that faces the flow.
13. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the inlet chamber provides a flow guidance element that is arranged in the upper area of the inlet chamber.
14. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein in the uppermost position of the passage chamber, above the separator, a vent channel is arranged which has a connection to the sewage outlet in the outlet chamber.
15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the sewage outlet provides a flow regulator.
16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the pressure chamber comprises a gas-impermeable, elastic foil.

17. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the pressure chamber contains air or another gas and is slightly pressurized.

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a level meter is connected with the pressure chamber in a pressure-sensory manner.

19. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the cross-sectional area of the separator is round, oval or square.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the cross-sectional area of the housing is round, oval or square.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) An apparatus for separating amalgam from dental sewage said apparatus having a flow zone and a sedimentation zone arranged in a housing, said housing comprising:

an aperture for sewage supply;

an aperture for sewage discharge;

an inlet chamber;

a passage chamber containing a separator made of a plurality of layers of synthetic foil;

an outlet chamber; and

stands;

said separator being a form body which can be streamed through and includes several tight fitting layers of a ~~wound~~ structured synthetic foil, the form body being fixed in the passage chamber, whereby the apparatus consists of shredable recyclable synthetic material,

said housing being sealed in a liquid-proof manner except for said sewage supply aperture and said sewage discharge aperture.

23. (New) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the tight fitting layers of structured synthetic foil are wound.

24. (New) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the shredable recyclable synthetic material has a lower density than amalgam.

25. (New) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the shredable recyclable synthetic material is usable in an injected molding process.